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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/623,519	11/06/2000	Masakazu Yamamoto	198006US2PCT	1057

22850 7590 09/20/2002

OBLON SPIVAK MCCLELLAND MAIER & NEUSTADT PC  
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ARLINGTON, VA 22202

EXAMINER
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LAU, TUNG S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2863

DATE MAILED: 09/20/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

RECEIVED: 9-23-02  
OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.  
DOCKETING DEPT.  
Initials/Date Docketed: RSX/9-23-02  
Type of Resp(s): Rest. RD  
Due Date(s): 10-20-02

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/623,519

Applicant(s)

YAMAMOTO ET AL.

Examiner

Tung S Lau

Art Unit

2863

— The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address —

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 October 2000.

2a) ☐ This action is FINAL.

2b) ☐ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-42 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.

6) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.

8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-42 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:

1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.

3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

## Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-946)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other:

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**DETAILED ACTION*****Election/Restrictions******Combination/subcombination***

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1-19, 22-34, drawn to estimate and identify provisional character of fluid machine, classified in class 702, subclass 183.
- II. Claims 20, 21, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, drawn to estimate energy saving diagnostic system for fluid, classified in class 702, subclass 183.
- III. Claims 40, 41, 42, drawn to refining the machine input power operating point, classified in class 702, subclass 189.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Inventions of each of groups I-III are related as subcombinations disclosed as usable together in a single combination. The subcombinations are distinct from each other if they are shown to be separately usable. In the instant case, inventions can each be used for their respective uses has separate utility such as different way to estimate and identify provisional character of fluid machine. See MPEP § 806.05(d).

For Group I, this application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention: species directed "flow rate," "shaft power," and "rotation speed."

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently, none of the claims are generic.

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Applicant is advised that a reply to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. MPEP § 809.02(a).

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

During a telephone conversation with Surinder Sachar on 8/29/02 no election was made. Affirmation of this election must be made by applicant in replying to this Office action. Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

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2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tung S Lau whose telephone number is 703-305-3309.

The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John S Hilten can be reached on 703-308-0719. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-308-5841 for regular communications and 703-308-5841 for After Final communications.

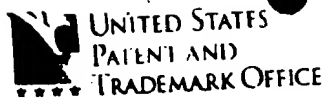
Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0956.

TL

September 16, 2002



JOHN S. HILTEN  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800



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Technology Center 2800 has taken continuous quality improvement efforts to ensure that the accompanying correspondence meets high quality standards, and focuses on good customer service. It is important to us that you are satisfied with the services we provide.

If the communication you have received has any issues that raise concerns as to the quality and/or clarity of the action taken by the examiner, we invite you to contact the appropriate Supervisory Primary Examiner. You may also contact one of our Quality Assurance Specialists.

**Quality Assurance Specialists:**  
Don Hajec.....703-308-4075

Paul Dzierzynski.....703-308-4822

If the contents of the attached correspondence have any clerical omissions, e.g., missing references or pages, illegible text, or any other similar errors, please contact us at the number below. We will take appropriate action to expedite the necessary corrections. Also, if you have general questions concerning any application assigned to Technology Center 2800, please contact our Customer Service Center. Questions concerning the merits of the application must be directed to the Examiner in charge of the particular application, then to the supervisor if appropriate.

TC 2800 Customer Service Center      Crystal Plaza 4-6<sup>th</sup> floor, D-corridor

**Customer Service Representatives:**  
Linda M. Hodge-Taylor      CP4-6-D32  
Wynette Stapor      CP4-6-D30

The Customer Service Center is open to receive requests for service in person, by phone 703-306-3329, or Fax 703-306-5515, from 8:30 am- 5:00 p.m. each business day.

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Any matter not satisfactorily resolved by the listed resources should be brought to the attention of the appropriate Director listed below. We appreciate your assistance in helping us help you.

**Directors, Technology Center 2800**  
**Semi-conductors, Electrical, Optical Systems & Components**

Sharon Gibson	703/308-0658	2810
Rolf G. Hille	703/306-0658	2820
Richard Seidel	703/306-3431	2830/40
Howard N. Goldberg	703/306-3431	2850/60
Janice A. Falcone	709/308-0530	2870/80